THE INVENTION CLAIMED IS

- In a device for solid phase micro-extraction, the improvement comprising:

 a porous sheath,
 said porous sheath containing active extraction media for carrying a

 solid phase micro-extraction process.
- 2. The improvement of Claim 1, wherein said porous sheath comprises a tube adapted to be connected to a syringe.
- 3. The improvement of Claim 2, wherein said tube is provided with perforations along at least a section of length of said tube.
- 4. The improvement of Claim 3, wherein said perforations are located along substantially an entire length of said tube.
- 5. The improvement of Claim 2, wherein said tube includes an end section selected from the group consisting of a closed end section and an open end section.
- 6. The improvement of Claim 5, wherein said tube includes an end section selected from the group consisting of a flat end section and a pointed end section.
- 7. The improvement of Claim 2, wherein said tube includes an end section selected from the group consisting of a flat end section and a pointed end section.
- 8. The improvement of Claim 3, wherein said perforations have a configuration, selected from the group consisting of circular and elongated.

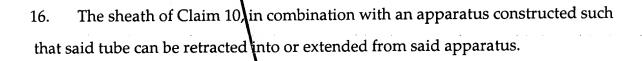
- 9. The improvement of Claim 2, wherein said tube includes a section configured to form a seal when said tube is inserted through a septum.
- 10. A porous protective sheath for solid phase micro-extraction, comprising: a porous tube,

said porous tube having an end section selected from the group consisting of a closed section and an open end section,

said porous tube being provided with at least a section along a length thereof having perforations,

said porous tube containing an active extraction media for carrying out solid phase micro-extraction.

- 11. The sheath of Claim 10, wherein said perforations are located along a substantial length of said tube.
- 12. The sheath of Claim 10, wherein said end section has a configuration selected from the group consisting of flat and pointed end sections.
- 13. The sheath of Claim 10, wherein said perforations have a configuration selected from the groups consisting of circular and non-circular.
- 14. The sheath of Claim 10, wherein said tube is constructed from materials selected from the group consisting of metals and metal alloys.
- 15. The sheath of Claim 10, where said tube additionally includes a section configured top form a seal with an object through which said tube extends.



17. The sheath of Claim 10, wherein said tube is constructed of material having a strength sufficient to carry out a septum piercing operation with damage to said tube.

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